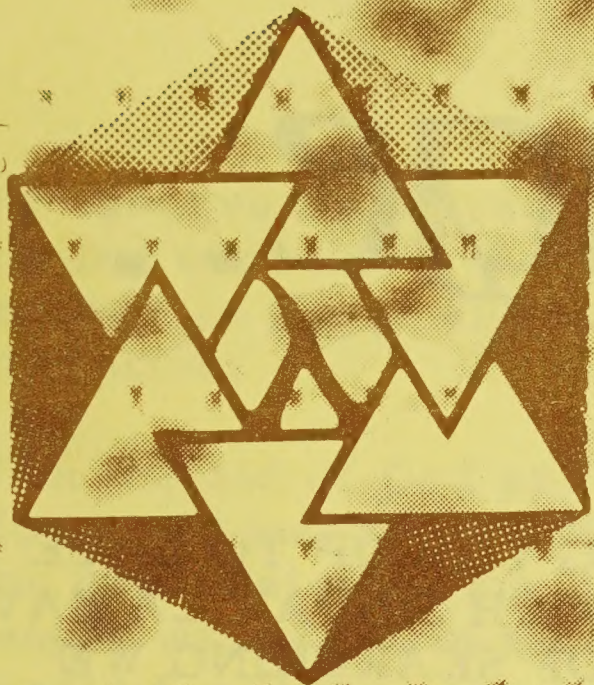


THE JEWISH GAILY



פסח

SHA'AR ZAHAV

April  
1978

Adar II - Nissan  
5738

פסח

PESACH



# message...

SHALOM. I WOULD LIKE TO BRING YOU UP TO DATE ON WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING WITH SHA'AR ZA'HAV. AFTER A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF SEARCHING WE HAVE ARRANGED FOR SERVICES TO BE HELD TEMPORARILY AT 121 LEAVENWORTH...A YMCA THAT IS ALSO A MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE. WE WILL BE ABLE TO STAY THERE FOR TWO TO THREE MONTHS. DURING THE UPCOMING MONTHS WE WILL BE LOOKING FOR A MORE PERMANANT HOME...A PLACE ALL OUR OWN.

WE ARE ALSO IN THE PROCESS OF PLANNING OUR FIRST SEDER. IT WILL BE ON SATURDAY ~~22~~ APRIL, THE SECOND NIGHT OF PESACH. YOU WILL RECEIVE A REGISTRATION FORM IN THE MAIL SOON. I HOPE TO SEE MANY OF OUR CONGREGANTS THERE.

I WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY PESACH.



Passover Plate of the Seventeenth Century.  
(In the Kunstgewerbe-Museum, Düsseldorf.)

*Maida Cohen*



We observe Passover to remind ourselves of our bondage in Egypt and our liberation.

With the aid of God and Moses we were freed from our oppression. Our people wandered in the desert for forty years. During that time a "free nation" emerged from a people which had been enslaved for generations. Only then did our 400-year separation from the Promised Land come to an end.

During this wandering in the desert, the Children of Israel often found their faith wavering, as is shown by their building of the Golden Calf while Moses was on Mt. Sinai receiving the command-

ments. Many of the Israelites even wanted to return to Egypt, believing that "in Egypt we were slaves, but we knew where we stood." In spite of all their trials, Moses was able to keep the wanderers together and bring them to the Promised Land: to become the people Israel.

We as gay people can relate strongly to the Passover story. We, too, have been oppressed. Many of us today are afraid to let our identities be known. Like the wanderers in the desert, many of us have wondered if we weren't better off in the closet: we might have been oppressed, but at least we didn't have to struggle with new problems on the road to freedom. Just as the Israelites struggled to throw off the chains of



How many images ...  
the memory of Elijah stirs in

# the fifth matzo



slavery, we as gay people are struggling to throw off the chains of oppression to become full members of society. And we are succeeding. We have broken away from the "slave mentality" of believing that homosexuality is an illness which set us apart from society and have learned to see ourselves as healthy individuals participating in a society of openness and freedom.

Just as Moses encouraged the Children of Israel to stay together during their forty years of wandering, so does Sha'ar Zahav support us as we strive to understand ourselves as Jews and gays.

We still observe the ancient admonishment that when we read the Passover story, we should read it as though we were slaves in Egypt. Unless we understand what it feels like to be slaves, we cannot appreciate what it is to be free. We, as gays, know enslavement from first-hand experience. We, as gay people, are determined to be free!

It has been traditional to have 3 matzot at the Seder table, representing Cohen, Levi, and Israel. In recent years a 4th matza "The Matza of Hope" has been added to signify unity with oppressed Jews in Russia.

WE OF SHA'AR ZAHAV ASK THAT A FIFTH MATZA "THE MATZA OF FREEDOM" be added to the previous four. To symbolize our DESIRE & DEMAND for basic human rights! We ask our Kindred Congregations, and all Jews, Gay and Straight, friends and families to take this fifth "Bread of our affliction" and pray:

BLESSED ARE YOU, ADONAI OUR GOD, SOVERIGN OF THE INFINITE. COMPASSIONATE CREATOR IN WHOSE IMAGE WE ARE ALL CREATED.

GRANT SIGHT TO THOSE WHO BLINDLY SEE ONLY THEMSELVES REFLECTED IN YOU. THEIR BLINDNESS CAUSES OUR PAIN!

MAY WE SEE PAST THE DISTORTED SELF-IMAGES THRUST UPON US., & SEE OURSELVES IN YOUR LITE WE ARE STRONG-WE ARE MYRIAD & PASSIONATE WE ARE ONE & WE WILL BE FREE!!

amen



Dan-Rob-Shamir

**PASSOVER MATZA COVER.** Fringed, circular container with three compartments for the Matzot, embroidered with a Magen David and the inscription: "You shall observe the Festival of the Matzot". Decorated with a crown and a floral wreath. Eastern Europe, 19th century.



# Rabbi Wants Gays Included in Judaism

**PRINCETON, NJ:** Writing in a recent issue of 'Judaism', Rabbi Herschel J. Matt proposed that homosexuals be treated "with kindness and freindship" and that gays should be allowed to become rabbis. Matt also stated that society shoudl adopt some form of recognition aimed at honoring "enduring relationships" between homosexuals.

Matt explained that while heterosexuality should remain the ideal, he considered homosexuality to be "one of God's exceptions. For a significant number, it is impossible to change to a heterosexual way of living."



Although Matt is opposed to the adoption of children by homosexuals, he supports the homosexual who feels that heterosexuality is the norm, and he suggested that these gays be permitted to teach and become rabbis.

Rabbi Robert Gordis, editor of *Judaism*, told the gay press that he was not in agreement with Matt's stand on the homosexual, but printed the article to encourage discussion on the issue. (*Metro Gay News*)





## GLEANINGS

The Agudah (the Israeli gay group) is seeking hard currency (dollar) contributions towards their goal of purchasing a building. If you can help, send a check made out to "Society for the Protection of Personal Rights" to P.O.B. 16151, Tel Aviv 61160, Israel. If you happen to be visiting Israel, you may write to them at the same address, or phone (03) 229462. (If you have overseas dialling, it's 011-9723-229462). . . Etz Hayyim in the Twin Cities participated in a University of Minnesota Shabbaton on "Challenge to the Community: Gay and Lesbian Jews" and reports that it was a great success. . . If anybody knows any Jewish Gays in Iowa, David Feinberg, 900 24th Street, Des Moines, IA 50265 is trying to organize a group there. . . Etz Chaim in Miami is applying for membership in the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Reform). If accepted, they would follow in the footsteps of Los Angeles' Beth Chayim Chadashim. . . Those planning to attend the Third International Conference of Gay Jews in L.A. should send in their registrations before April 21st; otherwise there'll be a \$10 late charge!!!. . . Boston's Am Tikva celebrated its first anniversary: Mazel Tov!!! Rob.

## ✓ Report

### FROM OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

One of Outreach Committee's functions is to deal with different groups in the community and to set up a speakers bureau. Therefore, if you are interested or are even asked to represent the synagogue please clear it with me. We ask no one attempt to represent us without first clearing with us.

Daniel C.  
Outreach Committee Chairperson



# Right-Wing Jewish Groups

## Oppose Gay Rights

NEW YORK, NY: A coalition of over 1400 Orthodox Jewish rabbis and teachers have issued a declaration in opposition to homosexual rights.

The Coalition, spear-headed by seven conservative and right-wing Jewish organizations called upon the mayors and governors of all the cities and states "where homosexual pornographic publications are sold and homosexual pornographic movie theaters operate, to once and for all swiftly put an end to this and to other examples of extreme obscenity."

In addition, the coalition has urged legislative bodies throughout the country to defeat all gay rights bills, and urged New York City to repeal the executive order which favors gay rights in jobs and housing, issued by Mayor Koch two months ago.

The groups that formed the coalition are: the National Committee for the furtherance of Jewish Education; the Rabbinical Alliance of America; the National Council of Young Israel; the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the US & Canada; the Syrian, Lebanese and Sephardic Rabbinical Council of the US; The Federal Rabbinical Council of the US; and the Agudath Israeli Labor Movement.

A spokesperson for the coalition charged that "For the past decade, religious Jewish Americans have watched with increasing outrage the cancerous growth and increasing power of homosexuals in America. This moral rot has reached the point where the security and the very existence of the Republic is in danger — faced as we are by internal as well as external enemies who have said they will bury us."

The statement included a charge by the spokesperson that New York's Bella Abzug is the "high priestess of deviate demands." The right-wing coalition also took a stand against the recent National Women's Conference in Houston because it called for the passage of the ERA. (GCN)



"REVOLUTION IS THE RIGHT OF SLAVES" H. LEIVICK in The Golem

Oy! nk



The Anita Bryant Kelley revealed is "part Aimee Semple McPherson and part underwear model. Once she started talking risqué she wouldn't stop, now she does it on the phone." But when Kelley's interview runs in Playboy this April, Kelley and Bryant will be even as far as trading surprises go. Bryant has candidly discussed her teenage sex life and her religious opinion that "the Jews are beyond salvation." (BAR)



## "REMINISCENCES"

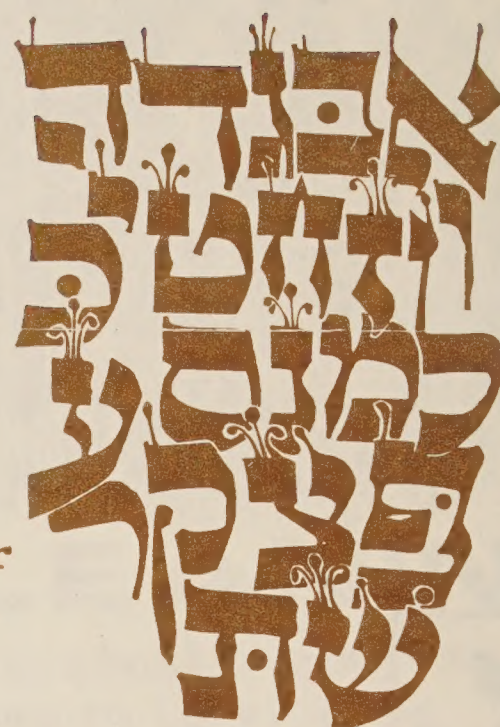
James Michener I'm not. But I do have a tale of the South Pacific to tell. I was a GI, one of a few thousand others on The Sea Witch zig-zagging our way thru the South Pacific. You Humphrey Bogart buffs know of the Sea Witch from action in the North Atlantic. No, it never made that run, but it did the South Pacific one. We were headed for Suva, Fiji Islands to unload and load before taking off again for our ultimate destination- Noumea, New Caledonia.

We were to be in port at least ten days, and were restricted to the ship. Our main relaxation was to watch the beautifully torsoed Fiji Islanders with their rippling muscles, their rich red and blue wrap-around skirts-working a hold, loading and unloading. They also sang as they worked, harmonizing beautifully-such songs as "Roll Out the Barrel". They worked and sang as one. A performance never to be forgotten!

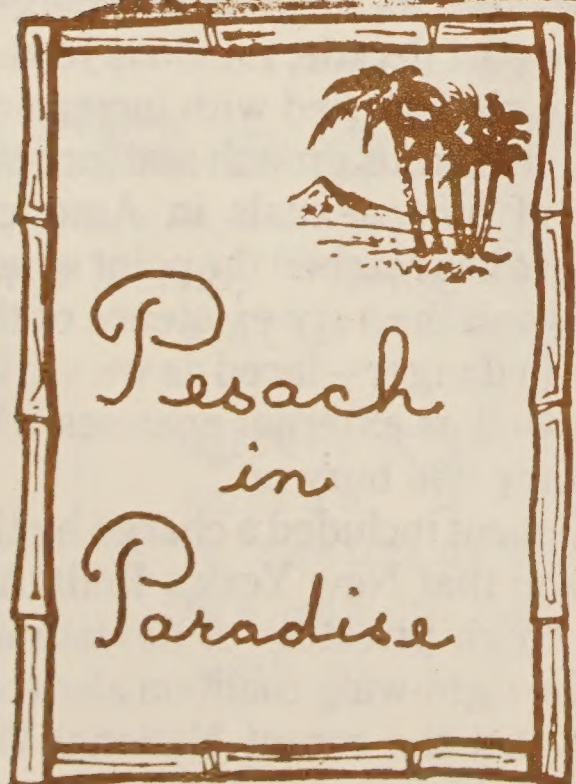
One day the Ship Troop Commander announced over the loud-speaker that those of the Jewish Faith who wished, would be allowed ashore to attend Passover services the following day. Only about ten of us went to his office to get our shore leave passes for the event. There was a lot of grumbling, but also remarks such as "I wish I were a Jew." We were allowed to leave the ship with instructions to behave, and where to go for services. With time on our hands, and in a Religious holiday spirit and not much to see in Suva after looking at the Governors Mansion, and a walk thru the flower gardens, we went to

the movie house to see Betty Grable in "Moon Over Miami". After the movie, we meandered over to the house of the only Jewish family on the island. The home of a refugee Austrian jeweler and his wife who we never met personally. We were greeted by turbanned Indians, who may have been Sikhs. All over the South Pacific, the basic middle class is Chinese, except for the Suva experience where it was Indian. We were escorted to the Seder Room, a very large room with wooden tables and chairs for seating either four or six people. There were some guys there already from the station hospital. There was a larger regular table with a white linen cloth, the matzohs, charosis and cup for Elijah all set for the Passover Seder.

contd. 7.2



LITERATI





The floor was of loamy black dirt. The room was filling with some guys from an anti-aircraft battery, and quite a number of women who were either nurses or technicians from the station hospital. Our host and his wife entered, greeted all in the room, and sat in their chairs at the main table. As they did, a young lad who looked as if he were no more than fifteen, approached the host and had a discussion with him, after which he sat down at the main table opposite the host and his wife. He was a GI medical corpsman who was going to ask the "fier kashes". So the tables were now filled. We from the ship did not sit together. At the main table sat a Female officer. I recall that she was to "orchestrate" the entire service. very tall and very heavy mess meat loaf. The Jewish hospital staff paid for the food, and the mess staff volunteered their time. The wine for the four glasses was provided by our host. Our glasses were filled by his Indian help who always ascertained that our glasses were filled to the brim! To me the most unusual aspect of this Seder were the different chants and languages spoken- English, Yiddish, Hebrew, German, Czechoslovakian and Polish. These all blended into one evening of total togetherness and oneness in the Seder. All this happened in April of 1943 the memory of this is still clearly etched in my mind!

Hy



THE SARAJEVO HAGADAH:  
14th century illuminated Spanish Hebrew manuscript. "The Sarajevo Haggadah is the most famous of Hebrew illuminated manuscripts. It is among the most beautiful, it is perhaps the most important. The glory of the volume, which is the reason for its great reputation, lies in the series of illuminations."

"This is the bread of affliction which our forebears ate in the land of Egypt. All who are hungry, let them come and eat; all who are needy, let them come and celebrate Pesach with us. Now we are here: next year may we be in Israel. Now we are slaves: in the year ahead may we be Free people!





## THE SEDER . . .

GERMANY-1937

1

What am I going to wear?  
the Aunt is worrying-  
for the Seder.

The entire family will be there;  
they know my old rags, they've  
seen them before, -oh my.

to Uncle she says "you have to spring  
a few green ones, so I can buy some-  
thing new". Uncle says "all right"  
without listening. He is worried, has  
he studied enough of the old faith books  
for the discussion after dinner?

3

The ceremony starts, and Mother runs  
into the kitchen, to prepare the mazzoth with ham?  
balls. The water is boiling, I hope  
they won't come apart, she prays.

Mazzoth balls are my speciality,  
everybody is here, but if the seder  
takes too long, who knows what  
happens to mazzoth balls.

2

Father rehearses his Hebrew,  
so he won't fail- when he gives  
the Seder for the family.

"Mah-Nishtanoh, stutters the  
little girl, as she studies for  
her part in the ceremony.  
On one hand she wants the  
family to be proud of her-  
wish'd it was over, on the  
other.

Brother has a mean thought,  
we are not eating Kosher,  
so why can't I eat mazzoth

4

Can't they speed it up a bit  
delete a prayer-or two, a  
paragraph or two. Don't  
they know what I am going  
through? Let them enjoy my  
mazzoth balls-----

My Mazzoth Balls.

Ralph Scharlach



# EAT

## YEMENITE CHAROSET

30 Dates

20 Figs

1tsp. Ginger

Chop up dates and figs, add other ingred.

Dash of Coriander

1/4 cup of Sesame seeds

dry Red Wine to moisten

to remind us of the mud  
we used to make bricks





Don't forget to mail your Registration to Cong. Beth Chayim Chadishim by April 21st. to avoid an extra charge on the Registration Fee for being late- No Jewish Standard Time allowed! Their address: 6000 West Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, Ca. 90035

WE WILL BE WELL REPRESENTED!

and on that note- if you are going to L.A. please contact Lauren for traveling arrangements. Air Flights, Car Pools will be available

CALL- 626-3131 Lauren

**SHALOM** - We are trying to form a welcoming/Hospitality Group for visitors to the Bay Area. We expect that people traveling to or from L.A. will be coming to experience our way of life here in the S.F. Bay area, before or after the Conference. May 19th-21st. If you are willing to open your homes to our Gay Sisters and Brothers, please leave word with Daniel Of The Outreach Committee. @626-3131

**'THE HOLOCAUST** -on April 16th-19th N. B. C. will present a four part series. It will attempt (limited by the constraints of the commercial TV medium) to tell the story of the Holocaust. It will begin at 8:00 Sunday April 16th and will run 3hrs. It will be continued on 3 successive nites from 9-11 p.m.

For those wishing to see the show on a COLOR Tv. I will gladly open my home. I only ask that guests refrain from smoking

I have room for about 10 people, and would appreciate knowing in advance if someone plans to join me for the programs. Refreshments are of the "Bring Your Own" variety.

My telephone # is 387-8373.

*Allen B.*

**PASSOVER TRAY.** Porcelain. Star of David at center amidst design of fruit clusters. Around rim and in between, the names of the special Passover foods. The following scenes are depicted: Jews working to build the Pyramids under the clubs of Egyptian task-masters; the Binding of Isaac; the Judgement of Solomon; David and Goliath; Egyptian soldiers suffering one of the Plagues. Capodimonte, Italy, 20th century.





# 121 Leavenworth

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### APRIL//ADAR II-NISSAN

mar. 31 121 Leavenworth 7:30pm. Don't forget to bring in your gargage sale items.


apr. 01 Please bring all your resellables for the sale at 455 Cole St. apt. 10 between 1 and 3pm. For those of you that can't get to us, there will be a pick up service. Call 626 3100 by Friday, Mar. 31. Please use this service only if you can't arrange to get a ride over to the sale location.

apr. 02 FUND RAISING EVENT 10am-5pm gargage sale at 455 Cole St. Stop by to see how we do.

apr. 03 7:00pm Steering Committee Meeting. Call our phone #626 3131 for address.

apr. 07 121 Leavenworth 7:30pm. Torah portion, Tazria, Lev. 12:1 13:59 & Special reading, Num. 28:15 & Ex. 12:1-20. Special prophetic reading, Isaiah 66:1 24.

apr. 14 121 Leavenworth 7:30pm. Torah portion, Metzora, Lev. 14:1-15:33. Special reading, Exodus 12:21 Oneg-songs with Fayla

 apr. 21 NO Services tonight (first night of Passover)

apr. 22 Pesach Seder details to be announced. special Torah reading Exodus 12:21-51 & Num. 28:19-25 special reading, Joshua 5:2-6:1

apr. 28 121 Leavenworth 7:30pm. special torah reading, Deut. 14:22-16:17 & Num. 28:19-25 special prophetic reading, Isaiah 10:32-12:6

apr. 30 "fund-raising event" we will have a booth at the first annual Haight St. Fair selling...bagels & creamcheese! 11am.-6pm. help appreciated call Lauren or Richard at 626-3131

## SHA'AR ZAHAV

## CONGREGATION of the GOLDEN GATE

Reaching out to the Jewish-Gay Community of the San Francisco Bay Area

Tel: 626:3131

Box 5640

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94101